

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and method for casting metal strip by controlling the distance between the confining side plates confining the casting pool and the outer nozzle ends of discrete nozzle pieces of the delivery nozzle delivering the molten melt. The

5 nozzle pieces defining the outer nozzle ends may be moved and control separately from the position of the confining plates, or with the position of the confining plates, by a nozzle delivery drive. The distance between the outer nozzle ends and the confining plates may be set before casting and maintained during casting with wear and thermal expansion of the confining plates, nozzle pieces, or both, or varied during

10 the casting operation, to inhibit the formation of skulls in the casting pool and the formation of “snake eggs” in the cast strip.